This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	MicroRNA-374a (miR-374a)	<p>Patient sample and mouse studies suggest inhibiting miR-374a could help prevent or treat breast cancer metastasis. In a mouse xenograft model for breast cancer, cells that overexpressed miR-374a caused greater metastasis than cells that expressed normal levels of miR-374a. In cells that expressed normal levels of miR-374a, antagomir-mediated knockdown of miR-374a expression led to less metastasis than no knockdown. Primary tumor samples from breast cancer patients with disease metastasis showed higher miR-374a expression than samples from patients without metastases. Next steps include optimizing the miR-374a antagomir.</p> <p>SciBX 6(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.132 Published online Feb. 14, 2013</p>	Patent application filed; available for licensing	<p>Cai, J. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Jan. 16, 2013; doi:10.1172/JCI65871 Contact: Mengfeng Li, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou, China e-mail: limf@mail.sysu.edu.cn</p>